

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1-16 stand rejected.

Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the IDS submitted on January 9, 2001.

Priority

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging, on Office Action Summary (PTOL-326), that certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Applicant notes that in a response to a Final Office Action dated March 25, 2004, Applicant amended the specification by adding that this application is a divisional reissue application of U.S. Patent Number 5,825,421, issued October 20, 1998.

Applicant further notes that a certified copy of the foreign application was submitted in the parent application number 08/773,574, filed December 27, 1996, now U.S. Patent Number 5,825,421.

Surrender Of The Original Patent

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the surrender of the original patent.

References Cited And The Original Patent

The Office Action states that the references cited on the front page of the original patent have not been found and requests that a form PTO-1449 should be submitted that includes all these references.

The undersigned telephoned the Examiner on May 9, 2005 to discuss the filing of form PTO-1449. The Examiner stated that he now has all the references cited in the original patent and, therefore, Applicant does not have to submit a form PTO-1449.

Reissue Applications

Applicant has now further amended the Reissue Oath/Declaration so that it addresses at least one specific error that caused the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid. An error in the claim is also identified by reference to specific claim language where the error lies.

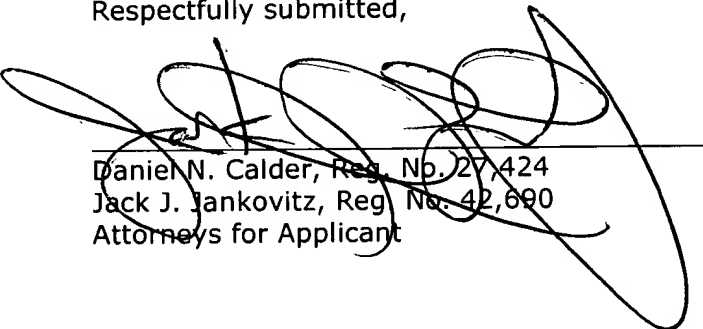
Claim Rejections

Claims 13-16 have been rejected based upon a defective Reissue Oath/Declaration. As discussed above, Applicant has now submitted a new Oath/Declaration. Applicant believes that these claims are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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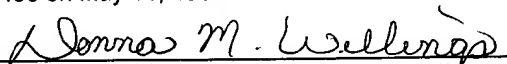
Attachment: Substitute Reissue/Declaration

Dated: May 11, 2005

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 11, 2005.



Donna M. Wellings